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ENG 2009G-002: Literature and Human Values (Race, Age, Gender)

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English 2009G - 02: Literature and Human Values (Race, Age, Gender)

TR 1230 - 1345; CH 3290

Spring 2003

Professor Richard Sylvia

Office: Coleman 3775

Office Hours: TR 10:30 – 11:30 am; 4:00 – 5:00 pm; and by appt.

Phone: 581-6292; 351-1731

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Course Description, Design, and Goals: English 2009G is a writing intensive course designed to allow you to respond in a variety of ways to literary representations of race, age, and gender. In order to improve our analytical skills, we will spend class time discussing the assigned readings and the issues they raise. We will also write in response to the readings on a regular basis, both in class and out of class. The goal is to improve, with practice, our reading and thinking skills and to approach an understanding of how the concepts of race, age, and gender function in the works of several well-known writers.

Texts: Chopin, *The Awakening*Hardy, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*Hughes, *The Big Sea*_____, *The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes*Hurstun, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*Shakespeare, *King Lear***Requirements and Grading:**

- 1) completion of two essays (minimum 750 words each), one of which requires use of secondary sources – 30%
- 2) two exams – 30%
- 3) weekly in-class written responses to assigned readings – 30%
- 4) participation in class discussions of the assigned readings – 10%

(You must complete successfully **all** the work listed above to pass the course.)

Course Policies: I do not accept late papers without a valid excuse. If you have a problem completing an assignment, speak to me before it is due. Sometimes even a brief conversation can clear up difficulties.

You cannot make up missed in-class writing assignments.

Attendance at all class meetings is expected, but not required. In-class writing assignments are not announced, and cannot be made up.

This is a writing-intensive course. You may submit an essay from the class for your EWP. For more information, visit the assessment website: <http://www.eiu.edu/~assess>.

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

English Department Statement on Plagiarism: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism – 'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own original work' (Random House Dictionary) – has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

Tentative Schedule

Jan. 14: introduction to course; in-class writing

Jan. 16: Hughes, The Big Sea, I

Jan. 21: The Big Sea, II

Jan. 23: The Big Sea, III

Jan. 28: The Big Sea

Jan. 30: Hughes, selected poems

Feb. 4: Hughes, selected poems

Feb. 6: Hughes, selected poems

Feb. 11: Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God, chpts. 1-6

Feb. 13: Their Eyes Were Watching God, chpts. 7-13

Feb. 18: Their Eyes Were Watching God, chpts. 14-20

Feb. 20: Chopin, The Awakening, chpts. I-XII; **essay #1 due**

Feb. 25: The Awakening, chpts. XIII-XXI

Feb. 27: The Awakening, chpts. XXII-XXVIII

Mar. 4: The Awakening, chpts. XXIX-XXXIX

Mar. 6: **mid-term exam**

Mar. 11, 13: Spring Break

Mar. 18: Hardy, Tess of the D'Urbervilles, Phase the First

Mar. 20: Tess, Phase the Second

Mar. 25: Tess, Phase the Third

Mar. 27: Tess, Phase the Fourth

Apr. 1: Tess, Phase the Fifth

Apr. 3: Tess, Phase the Sixth and Phase the Seventh

Apr. 8: "Thelma and Louise"

Apr. 10: "T and L"

Apr. 15: "T and L"

Apr. 17: "T and L"; **essay #2 due**

Apr. 22: Shakespeare, King Lear, Act I

Apr. 24: Lear, Act II

Apr. 29: Lear, Act III and IV

May 1: Lear, Act V

The date and time of the final exam will be announced later in the term.